# Template: Proposal for an Africa RISING R4D Scaling Partnership

**Intensifying and diversifying home garden and farm level agro systems**

## Background and Justification

*Describe the nature of the innovations to be scaled*

The majority of the Ethiopian highlands have complex topography and are sensitive to different land degradation processes. The Africa Rising sites (AR) in the Ethiopian highlands are situated above 2300m asl where there is a high potential to grow high value crops including apples, pears, peaches, olive, plums, Avocado shrubs for essential oils and different tree species. At present traditional annual crop livestock land use systems are practiced in these fragile areas and annual crop yield are very low due to frost and poor soil fertility. Because of this and other associated reasons, most smallholder farmers in the AR sites are facing problems of food and energy insecurity and under-nutrition, among others. Thus, **intensifying and diversifying their homestead and farming landscape through introducing high value trees, Vegetables, energy saving technologies, apiculture and poultry in the AR sites would contribute 1) to improve food security, energy security, nutrition and health 2) to diversify and increase source of income, 3) to mitigate the problems of soil erosion, nutrient depletion and degradation and 4) to convince farmers to manage their livestock better to protect their valuable crops from open grazing.** However intensifying and or diversifying a farming system is relatively new in most of AR sites in particular and in Ethiopia in general. According to the local knowledge studies carried out in AR sites, intensification the existing farming system was one of the farmers’ priorities and government’s interest. However, introducing integrated interventions has some challenges including, but not limited to, 1) Inaccessibility and unavailability of quality germplasm at a required quantity, 2) lack of technical knowhow in managing complex farming systems (both NARS and farmers particularly in temperate fruit trees), 3) open grazing system, and 4) lack of awareness and familiarity with the potential opportunities that diversified interventions can contribute. This intervention will respond to the local demand and government’s initiative to improve homestead and farming landscapes through knowledge intensive integrated interventions for their wider adoption.

## Benefits

*What benefits are anticipated from the widespread uptake of these innovations?*

* Improved land productivity
* Diversified products
* Improved nutrition and health
* Increased income (especially women and youth)
* Create resilience society

## Research Questions

*Specify the research questions that will backstop the partnership. It is accepted that these might evolve over the lifespan of the partnership.*

• Systematic review on the effectiveness homestead and farmland interventions and existing technologies in Ethiopia and others ,

• Introduce and evaluate appropriate participatory propagation/multiplication techniques and distribution processes (Rural resource centres).

* Test and identify suitable niches and system arrangements to complement existing farming systems on homesteads and farm lands
* Monitor and evaluate the economic, social, and ecological benefits of the interventions.
* Asses and quantify trade-offs of different home garden components (

## Development Partnerships

*List the partners who will be active, describe the contribution that they will make and how Africa RISING will support / backstop this with the research proposed. Also consider the comparative advantage offered by your partnerships. Make sure that you carefully consider roles and responsibilities of all partners.*

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| **Partners** | **Roles and responsibilities** |
| Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources | Extension, scaling up/out |
| Private sectors | Demonstration, research, sources of technology |
| Farmers | Resources ( Labour, land, indigenous knowledge) End users |
| Universities | Research, technology development, and scaling out |
| Research Centres (Regional and National) | Research and scaling out, technology development |
| MOEFCC | Extension, Research and technology development |
| CGIAR Centres (ILRI, IWMI....) | Research and technology development |
| NGOs ( Save the Children......) | Development, extension, scaling out |
| AGP | Development ( input ) |
| GIZ/SLM/ATA | Development (input) and extension |
| Women, Children and youth office | Extension (awareness creation and engaging women farmers) |
| FAO | Development (Agricultural inputs) |
| MOH | Awareness creation on nutrition |

## Impact Pathway

*Ensure that the contribution to FtF goals (e.g. improved food security, better health and nutrition, inclusive agriculture sector growth) are stated*



Targets / Zone of Influence

How many potential beneficiaries are out there? How many do you hope to materially impact on? Where are they?

• Four regions (Existing AR sites and others sites based on demand and availability of resources)

• 10000 farmers

Arrangements Required for Monitoring and Evaluation

How will you generate and present the evidence that your partnership has been successful?

• Effective partnership and monitoring tools

Communications and Knowledge Management / Transfer

What arrangements will you put in place to communicate your activities and their benefits? What knowledge specific products and activities will you need to implement to support this.

A considerable focus of the project is to increase the likelihood that its research results will be used by key decision-makers to inform policy and investment decisions. We will augment this by developing effective communication products to widely share and scale lessons and evidence. Participation in IP, open access journal articles, participation in conferences, symposia, and meetings to will further support the dissemination of key results.